

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Eighth Hampden Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Eighth Hampden Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.9% (1,076) reside in the Eighth Hampden Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (204) of Eighth Hampden Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 71.2% of admissions from the Eighth Hampden Representative District were male and 28.7% were female.
- Over 59% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 78.5% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.8% were black non-Latino, 18.4% were Latino, and 1.2% were other racial categories.
- 59.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 14.4% were married, and 18.6% reported not to be married now.
- 35.5% of admissions had less than high school education, 43.4% completed high school, and 21.1% had more than high school education.
- 32.3% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 4.6% of those admitted were homeless.
- 13.8% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

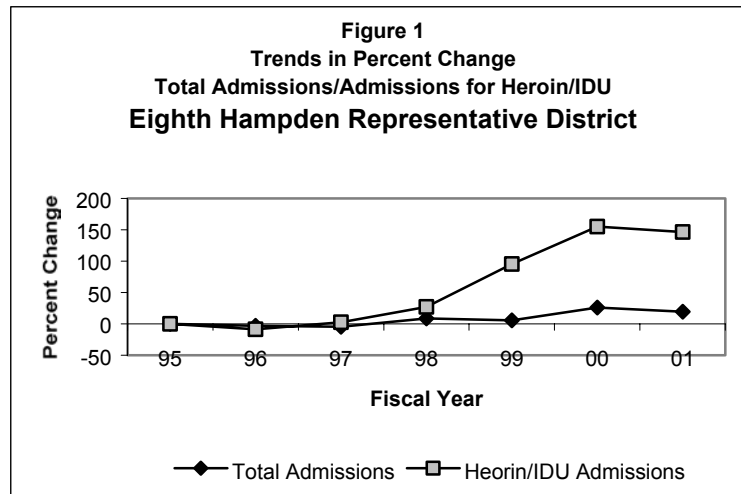
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Eighth Hampden Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Eighth Hampden Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	901	764	199	182	192	159	111
FY '96	872	728	182	159	169	145	101
FY '97	860	727	194	169	128	177	100
FY '98	978	820	239	202	128	220	123
FY '99	951	762	274	229	172	319	208
FY '00	1,135	898	326	285	234	431	258
FY '01	1,076	815	324	255	197	406	259

- Since FY 1995, residents of Eighth Hampden Representative District reported a steady rise in marijuana and heroin use. Marijuana use increased by 62%, and heroin use more than doubled.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting crack use remained steady, while alcohol and cocaine use increased by 6% and 40%, respectively.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Eighth Hampden Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 19% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 146%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Eighth Hampden Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	47.0%	33.3%	7.8%	2.5%	4.4%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While alcohol as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, marijuana and crack as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and cocaine was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000